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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 324
By Bowers

A RESOLUTION To designate May 2001 as "Stroke Awareness
Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, Stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States, striking over 600,000 Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, Stroke is a leading cause of disability in adults, with over 4.5 million stroke survivors today; and

WHEREAS, The majority of Americans are not aware of their risk factors for a stroke, nor are they aware of the signs and symptoms of an impending stroke; and

WHEREAS, Symptoms of stroke include: sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headaches with no known cause; and

WHEREAS, Stroke kills more women each year than breast cancer and the stroke death rate is greater among African Americans and seniors; and

WHEREAS, Stroke is the leading cause of adult disability in Tennessee each year; and

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WHEREAS, Stroke leads to the death of more than 3,900 citizens of Tennessee each year; and

WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed to treat and ease the severity and damaging effects of strokes, but much more research is needed; and

WHEREAS, Throughout this Nation the month of May has been designated as "Stroke Awareness Month"; this acknowledgement is a strong voice for stroke awareness and is an outstanding opportunity for the citizens of this great State and Nation to learn about the devastating effects of stroke; and

WHEREAS, In observance of "National Stroke Awareness Month," the State of Tennessee energetically and proudly joins with the National Stroke Association in this major health initiative to educate the public about the dangers and prevention of strokes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby designate the month of May, 2001 as "Stroke Awareness Month" in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we strongly encourage all citizens of our great State to familiarize themselves with the signs, symptoms, and risk factors associated with stroke, so that as a society we may begin to reduce the devastating effects that strokes make on our population.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.